Trade between India and Bangladesh

†2335. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the status of trade between India and Bangladesh during the last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that there has been decline in the trade between India and Bangladesh during the current financial year; and

(c) if so, the reasons due to which trade between India and Bangladesh is hampered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Trade between India and Bangladesh has been steadily progressing which may be seen from the details given in the table below:

(Value in US$ Million)

Year	India's exports to Bangladesh	India's imports from Bangladesh	Total Trade
2000-2001	872.98	73.87	946.85
2001-2002	1002.18	59.12	1061.30
2002-2003	1176.00	62.05	1238.24
2003-2004	1646.08	62.24	1708.32
(April-Dec.) 2004	1100.13	31.89	1131.89

(Source: DGCI&S, Kolkata)

(b) and (c) No, Sir. Upto the year 2003-04, total trade between India and Bangladesh was registering strong growth. However, during the year 2004-05 (April-December), a marginal decrease has been noticed but this could not be generalised as decline.

Import of sensitive items

†2336. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the import of sensitive items has dropped in the country during the current financial year;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi